

Initial Statement of Reasons
Title 13, Division 1, Chapter 1
Article 3.1 – Special Interest License Plates

The Department of Motor Vehicles (department) proposes to amend Section 180.00 in Article 3.1, Chapter 1, Division 1, Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, related to Special Interest License Plates.

Section 180.00 incorporates by reference the Application for Duplicate or Substitute, form REG 156. This is the department-designated form used by applicants requesting duplicate or substitute plates, documents, or stickers. Current regulation identifies the revision date of the form REG 156 as 4/1992. The 1992 version of the form was limited to requesting duplicate or substitute license plates, vehicle and vessel stickers, disabled person placards and identification cards, registration cards and vessel certificates of number. The 1992 version of the form also allowed the applicant to indicate whether the replacement is due to the original being lost or stolen, destroyed or mutilated, not received, or reassigned. Since then, the REG 156 has underwent extensive amendments to allow for the duplicate or substitute issuance of many other plates, documents, and stickers that are currently issued by the department. This proposed action does not place new requirements on any group of interested parties, the amended regulation only identifies a form that consolidates several types of departmental transactions on one form.

PROBLEMS THIS DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO ADDRESS AND BENEFITS ANTICIPATED FROM THE REGULATORY ACTION

The form REG 156 is one of the more commonly used departmental forms necessary to facilitate the process of replacing several types of plates, placards, cards and other documents. An outdated form in regulation could cause unnecessary confusion to affected applicants. This amendment will ensure applicants are aware of the current, valid version of the form REG 156 prior to their office visit.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The department must determine that no reasonable alternative considered, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the department, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which this action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons that the action proposed, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

COMPARABLE FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS

The department conducted a review of regulations and has determined that there are no other comparable state or federal regulations related to the forms administered by the department to procure replacement or duplicate plates, cards, placards or other registration-related documents.

§ 180.00. Application for Regular Series License Plates for State-Owned University Vehicle.

Subsection (b) is amended to update the name and revision date of the form REG 156 from Application for Duplicate or Substitute (Rev. 4/92) to Application for Replacement Plates, Stickers, Documents (Rev. 11/2016).

The form components identified in subsection (b)(1) through (b)(5) are repealed as those provisions are being incorporated into the form adoption.

*Application for Replacement Plates, Stickers, Documents
Form REG 156 (Rev. 11/2016)*

The form REG 156 is renamed to Application for Replacement Plates, Stickers, Documents and now contains five separate sections with space at the top of the form to provide information on remitting the completed form and where to find current fee information. The top portion of the form also requires the applicant to identify, when applicable, the vehicle license plate or CF number, the vehicle make, the vehicle identification number or hull number, the disabled person placard number and the engine number.

Section 1 – Registered Owner of Record

Section 1 is requests the registered owner's true full name, physical residence address and mailing address, the county of residence and the driver's license or identification card number. This information will ensure the department is issuing the duplicate plate, document or sticker to the appropriate vehicle and owner.

Section 2 – Plates, Stickers, Documents Request

Section 2 is provided for the applicant to indicate the plate, sticker, or document for which he or she is requesting replacement. As explained above, the 1992 version of the form was limited requests for duplicate or substitute license plates, vehicle and vessel stickers, disabled person placards and identification cards, registration cards and vessel certificates of number. Since 1992, the form has expanded to allow an applicant to request replacement of other forms of indicia issued by the department.

Section 2 contains a note informing the applicant that when requesting replacement of missing license plates, license stickers, or disabled person placards, if the original plate, sticker, or placard is later located or received, the original item is no longer valid and must be destroyed and returned to the department. This note will ensure the applicant, who eventually recovers the missing plate, sticker, or placard, is aware of which one the department deems to be the current plate, sticker, or placard.

Section 2 requires the applicant to indicate the plate, sticker, or placard for which he or she is requesting replacement. The applicant can make one of the following selections:

License plate. The license plate option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the form REG 156.

Registration Card. The registration card option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the form REG 156.

Year/Month Sticker. The year/month sticker option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the form REG 156, however, the previous version simply stated ‘Vehicle Sticker’ as the option.

Vessel (Boat) Year Sticker. The vessel year sticker option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the REG 156, however, the previous version of the form stated ‘Vessel Sticker’ as the option.

Vessel Certificate of Number. The vessel certificate of number option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the REG 156.

Vessel Mussel Sticker. The vessel mussel sticker is a new addition to the form REG 156. The vessel mussel sticker is a result of Assembly Bill 2443 (Chapter 485; Statutes of 2012), which amended Vehicle Code section 9860 to require the department to collect the quagga/zebra mussel monitoring fee on behalf of the Department of Boating and Waterways. Upon original registration and/or renewal, the vessel owner is issued a sticker showing the fee was paid. When that sticker is lost, damaged, not received, or otherwise unusable, the applicant is required to complete the form REG 156 to request a replacement mussel infestation prevention fee sticker.

Disabled Person Placard. The disabled person placard option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the REG 156.

Disabled Person ID Card. The disabled person ID card is carried forward from the 1992 version of the REG 156.

Planned Non-Operation (PNO) Card. The PNO card is issued when the vehicle owner plans to store and not operate the vehicle during the next renewal year. The nonoperated vehicles provision is authorized under Vehicle Code section 4604 and there is a filing fee for the PNO. When the PNO card is lost, damaged, not received, or otherwise unusable, the applicant is required to complete the form REG 156 to request a replacement PNO Card.

CVRA Weight Decal. The CVRA weight decal is a new addition to the form REG 156. The CVRA weight decal is a result of passage of Senate Bill 2084 (Chapter 861; Statutes of 2000), which enacted the Commercial Vehicle Registration Act of 2001. The CVRA requires that any commercial motor vehicle, singly or in combination, that operates with a declared gross vehicle weight that exceeds 10,000 pounds be registered with the department. All CVRA-registered vehicles are issued CVRA weight decals once upon initial CVRA registration with a CVRA year sticker. When the CVRA weight decal is lost, damaged, not received, or

otherwise unusable, the applicant is required to complete the form REG 156 to request a replacement CVRA weight decal.

CVRA Year Sticker. The CVRA year sticker is also new to the form REG 156. The CVRA year sticker is issued at the time of original CVRA registration and are renewed on a yearly basis. When a CVRA year sticker is lost, damaged, not received, or is otherwise unusable, the applicant is required to complete the form REG 156 to request a replacement year sticker.

Trailer or OHV ID Card. The trailer and Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) ID card is new to the form REG 156. A vehicle registered as an OHV is issued a Certificate of Title and identification card. If the ID card is lost, damaged, not received, or otherwise unusable, the applicant is required to complete the form REG 156 to request a replacement ID card.

Section 3 – The Item Requested Was (Check appropriate box(es))

Section 3 is provided for the applicant to indicate the current reason for which the plate, sticker, or document cannot be used. The 1992 version of the form, limited the options to lost/stolen, destroyed/mutilated, not received, or reassigned. Since these options do not reflect all the circumstances under which the indicia is not usable, the department expanded the options to allow the applicant more options and give the department a better understanding of those circumstances. The revised form allows the applicant to make the following selections and is necessary for the department to determine the location and condition of the existing plate, placard, or document:

Lost. The lost option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the form, however, is now separated from the stolen option.

Stolen. The stolen option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the form, however, is now separated from the lost option.

Destroyed/Mutilated. The destroyed/mutilated version is carried forward from the 1992 version, however, includes a note that the remains are to be surrendered to the DMV. This note will ensure that the department is provided with the remnants of the destroyed or mutilated indicia which is necessary for verification purposes.

Not Received from DMV/ Not Received from Prior Owner. The not received option is carried forward from the 1992 version of the form, however, the form now separates ‘not received from DMV’ and ‘not received from prior owner’. This distinction is necessary for tracking purposes. The revision also includes a note to applicants indicating that the plates were not received from the DMV to remind the applicant to allow 30 days before reapplying. This note will remind the applicant to give the department sufficient time to issue the plates prior to reapplying for plates that have not yet been received.

Surrendered. The surrendered option is new to the REG 156. This option is used when previously issued license plates were surrendered to the department. The applicant is also required to indicate whether one or two plates were returned.

Special Plates were Retained by Owner. This option is new to the REG 156 and is used by applicants that do not have license plates because they were retained by the previous owner. This option applies to vehicles with previous plates that were personalized or issued to disabled persons or disabled veterans.

Requesting Registration Card with Current Address. This option is new to the REG 156 and is used by vehicle owners who need a new registration card due to a change in address.

Per VC §4467. This option is new to the REG 156 and is used by applicants applying to the department for license plates under Vehicle Code section 4467, which requires the immediate issuance of new and different license plates to a specified applicant who appears at the department with the documentation required by statute.

Other. This option is new to the REG 156 and is used by an applicant whose circumstances cannot be explained by any of the options above.

Section 4 – License Plates

Section 4 is used by applicants requesting replacement license plates when the original license plates were stolen or missing. Section 4 instructs the applicant to submit, with the REG 156, proof of ownership, his or her driver's license or identification card, and, if stolen, a copy of the police report. Section 4 also instructs the applicant to submit a CHP verification of the vehicle identification number if duplicate license plates were issued within 90 days. This information will allow the department to verify that the plates were stolen, and that the vehicle does belong to the person applying for the replacement plates. The applicant is also required to indicate whether one or two plates are missing. The requirements of Section 4 of the REG 156 are all contained in Vehicle Code section 4466.

Section 5 – Certification

The certification is consistent with the requirements of Vehicle Code section 1808.21(c).

DEPARTMENTAL DETERMINATIONS

- *Technical, Theoretical and/or Empirical Studies, Reports or Documents:* None.
- *Reasonable Alternatives That Would Lessen Any Adverse Impact on Small Business:* No alternatives were considered or presented that would lessen any adverse impact on small business.
- *Evidence Supporting Determination of No Significant Adverse Economic Impact on Business, Including the Ability to Compete:* This action updates a departmental form. The form updates are authorized by various statutes and, therefore, are unlikely to have a significant adverse economic impact on businesses.

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL IMPACT DETERMINATIONS

- *Cost Or Savings To Any State Agency:* None.
- *Other Non-Discretionary Cost or Savings to Local Agencies:* None.
- *Costs or Savings in Federal Funding to the State:* None.
- *Cost Impact on Representative Private Persons or Businesses:* Because this action only updates the revision date of a departmental form used to request duplicate or replacement indicia, the department has determined that this proposed action has no cost impact on private persons or businesses.
- *Effect on Housing Costs:* None.
- *Local Agency/School District Mandates:* The proposed regulatory action will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts, or a mandate that requires reimbursement pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of the Government Code.
- *Cost to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code sections 17500 through 17630:* None.
- *Small Business Impact:* This proposed action has no impact on small businesses.
- *Potential Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact on Business:* This action is unlikely to have any significant statewide adverse economic impact on businesses as the amendments only update the revision date of a departmental form. Even though a business may be required to complete the form as part of a transaction, the department does not anticipate that this requirement will have any significant impact on any business.

ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(Government Code section 11346.3)

The department has made the following determinations related to this proposed regulatory action:

Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State of California

- This proposed action updates the form used by applicants who are applying for replacement or duplicate plates, placards, cards or other documents. The form is revised to consolidate several departmental registration transactions on to one form. Applicants will be required to complete the form as part of any transaction that is identified on the form, however, it is unlikely that the revised form nor completion of the form will impact any jobs within California.

Creation or Elimination of Existing Businesses Within the State of California

- This proposed action updates the form used by applicants who are applying for replacement or duplicate plates, placards, cards or other documents. The form is revised to consolidate several departmental registration transactions on to one form. The department does not anticipate that completion of the revised form will have any impact on the creation or elimination of existing businesses within California.

Expansion of Business Currently Doing Business Within the State of California

- This proposed action updates the form used by applicants who are applying for replacement or duplicate plates, placards, cards or other documents. The form is revised to consolidate several departmental registration transactions on to one form. The department does not anticipate that completion of the revised form will have any impact on businesses currently doing business within California.

Benefits of Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety and the State's Environment

- The form is revised to consolidate several departmental registration transactions on to one form. The department does not anticipate that completion of the revised form will have any impact on the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, or the state's environment.